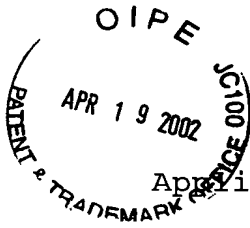


04-17-

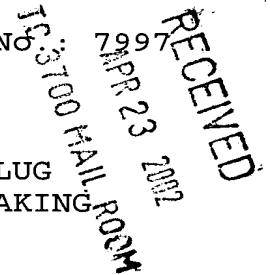
3738

293/034 Cont. 2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Todd Allen Berg et al.
Application No.: 10/091,143 Confirmation No. 7997
Filed : March 5, 2002
For : MEDICAL GRAFT CONNECTOR OR PLUG
STRUCTURES, AND METHODS OF MAKING
AND INSTALLING SAME
Group Art Unit : 3738
Examiner : Not yet assigned



New York, New York 10020
April 17, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, Virginia 22202

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information
Disclosure Statement in the above-identified application.
This Statement is submitted:

- ☒ [X] within three months of the application filing date;
- ☐ [] more than three months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account

C

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is
transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

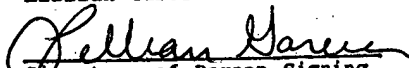


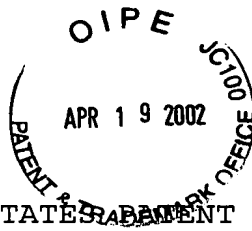
Robert R. Jackson
Registration No. 26,183
Attorney for Applicants
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New York, New York 10020-1105
Tel.: (212) 596-9000

I Hereby Certify that this
Correspondence is being
Deposited with the U.S.
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Addressed to:
COMMISSIONER FOR
PATENTS P.O. Box 2327
ARLINGTON, VA 22202 on

April 17, 2002

Lillian Garcia


Signature of Person Signing



293/034 Cont. 2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#2
ALV
5/15/02

Applicants : Todd Allen Berg et al.
Application No.: 10/091,143 Confirmation No.: 7997
Filed : March 5, 2002
For : MEDICAL GRAFT CONNECTOR OR PLUG
STRUCTURES, AND METHODS OF MAKING AND
INSTALLING SAME
Group Art Unit : 3738
Examiner : Not yet assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, Virginia 22202

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the
following documents:

U.S. Patent Documents

Regan et al.	4,083,162	(04/11/78)
Sakura, Jr.	4,214,587	(07/29/80)
Kaster	4,368,736	(01/18/83)
Krumme	4,485,816	(12/04/84)
Dotter	4,503,569	(03/12/85)
Gupte et al.	4,592,754	(06/03/86)
Kornberg	4,617,932	(10/21/86)
Jervis	4,665,906	(05/19/87)
Lazarus	4,787,899	(11/29/88)
Lazarus	5,104,399	(04/14/92)
Granger et al.	5,122,156	(06/16/92)
Citron	5,135,467	(08/04/92)
Trout, III	5,207,695	(05/04/93)
Clouse	5,211,658	(05/18/93)
Maginot	5,211,683	(05/18/93)
Kaster et al.	5,234,447	(08/10/93)

Lazarus et al.	5,275,622	(01/04/94)
Maginot	5,304,220	(04/19/94)
Palmaz et al.	5,316,023	(05/31/94)
Das	5,334,217	(08/02/94)
Kelman et al.	5,354,336	(10/11/94)
Kaster et al.	5,366,462	(11/22/94)
Chuter	5,387,235	(02/07/95)
Hildwein et al.	5,391,156	(02/21/95)
Lazarus	5,397,345	(03/14/95)
Marin et al.	5,397,355	(03/14/95)
Sideris	5,433,727	(07/18/95)
Venbrux	5,443,497	(08/22/95)
Sterman et al.	5,452,733	(09/26/95)
Maginot	5,456,712	(10/10/95)
Tovey et al.	5,478,354	(12/26/95)
Piplani et al.	5,489,295	(02/06/96)
Marin et al.	5,507,769	(04/16/96)
Barone et al.	5,522,880	(06/04/96)
Stevens	5,545,214	(08/13/96)
Lazarus et al.	5,562,728	(10/08/96)
Taheri	5,617,878	(04/08/97)
Gryskiewicz	5,618,311	(04/08/97)
Dereume	5,653,747	(08/05/97)
Kim	5,676,670	(10/14/97)
Gifford, III et al.	5,695,504	(12/09/97)
Frantzen et al.	5,843,164	(12/01/98)
Ahn	5,843,170	(12/01/98)
Frantzen	5,843,175	(12/01/98)
Kleshinski	5,921,995	(07/13/99)
Bolduc et al.	5,976,159	(11/02/99)
Goldsteen et al.	5,976,178	(11/02/99)
Berg et al.	6,013,190	(01/11/00)
LaFontaine et al.	6,026,814	(02/22/00)
LaFontaine et al.	6,035,856	(03/14/00)
Bachinski et al.	6,036,702	(03/14/00)
Berg et al.	6,074,416	(06/13/00)
Swanson et al.	6,113,612	(09/05/00)
Sullivan et al.	6,120,432	(09/19/00)
Bolduc et al.	6,193,734	(02/27/01)

Foreign Patent Documents

Australia	670,239	(01/06/94)
Great Britain	489,316	(07/25/38)
Great Britain	2,269,104 A	(02/02/94)
EPO	0 539 237 A1	(04/28/93)
EPO	0 637 454 A1	(02/08/95)
EPO	0 680 734 A2	(11/08/95)
EPO	0 684 022 A2	(11/29/95)
EPO	0 701 800 A1	(03/20/96)
EPO	0 712 614 A1	(05/22/96)
EPO	0 732 088 A2	(09/18/96)
EPO	0 732 089 A2	(09/18/96)

Germany	DE 195 42 733 A1	(07/24/97)
PCT	WO 89/08433 A1	(09/21/89)
PCT	WO 93/00868 A1	(01/21/93)
PCT	WO 93/20757 A2	(10/28/93)
PCT	WO 94/01056 A1	(01/20/94)
PCT	WO 95/21592 A1	(08/17/95)
PCT	WO 95/32757 A1	(12/07/95)
PCT	WO 96/01591 A1	(01/25/96)
PCT	WO 96/01599 A1	(01/25/96)
PCT	WO 96/14808 A1	(05/23/96)
PCT	WO 96/18361 A1	(06/20/96)
PCT	WO 96/22745 A1	(08/01/96)
PCT	WO 96/25897 A2	(08/29/96)
PCT	WO 97/13463 A1	(04/17/97)
PCT	WO 97/13471 A1	(04/17/97)
PCT	WO 97/27898 A1	(08/07/97)
PCT	WO 98/02099 A1	(01/22/98)
PCT	WO 98/03118 A1	(01/29/98)
PCT	WO 98/19629 A2	(05/14/98)
PCT	WO 98/19629 A3	(09/11/98)
PCT	WO 98/38939 A1	(09/11/98)
PCT	WO 98/38941 A1	(09/11/98)
PCT	WO 98/38942 A1	(09/11/98)
PCT	WO 98/55027 A2	(12/10/98)
PCT	WO 99/62408 A1	(12/09/99)

These documents are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate) and copies are enclosed herewith.

Concise Explanation of Relevance
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

German DE 195 42 733 A1 was cited in an international search report on applicants' PCT application No. PCT/US98/26845, which corresponds to the parent of this continuation application. This reference was cited in category "X" ("document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone") in relation to claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 12, 16, 18, and 26 of applicants' above-mentioned PCT application. The "figures"

of the German reference were identified as the "relevant passages" in the international search report.

Some of the documents listed in this Statement were cited by a foreign patent office in applications of another from which claims were recently copied into this application (see the "Notification Pursuant To 37 C.F.R. § 1.604(b) Identifying Published Patent Applications From Which Claims Have Been Copied" filed concurrently with this application). The following identifies each application from which claims have been copied into this application. For each application from which claims have been copied, the following further identifies the references in the International Search Report (if published and therefore available to the under-signed attorney) for that application that are associated with the claims that have been copied. Copies of the available International Search Reports are also enclosed herewith.

WO 99/62415

Gifford, III et al.	5,695,504
Kaster et al.	5,234,447
Kaster et al.	5,366,462
Kaster	5,368,736

WO 00/56223

Kaster et al.	5,234,447
Gryskiewicz	5,618,311
Tovey et al.	5,478,354
Krumme	4,485,816

WO 00/56226

Gifford, III et al.	5,695,504
Bolduc et al.	5,976,159
Derowe et al.	WO 99/62408

WO 01/41624

Search Report Not Available

It is respectfully requested that these documents be
(1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during

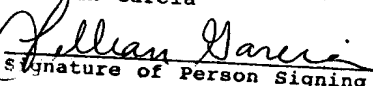
examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Tel.: (212) 596-9000

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Addressed to:
COMMISSIONER FOR
PATENTS PO BOX 2327
ARLINGTON, VA 22202 on
April 17, 2002
Lillian Garcia

Signature of Person Signing

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
		293/034 Cont. 2	10/091,143
		APPLICANTS	CONFIRMATION NO.
		Todd A. Berg et al.	7997
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS	APR 19 2002	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
		March 5, 2002	3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,083,162	04/11/78	Regan et al.	52	699	
	4,214,587	07/29/80	Sakura, Jr.	128	334 R	
	4,368,736	01/18/83	Kaster	128	334 C	
	4,485,816	12/04/84	Krumme	128	334 R	
	4,503,569	03/12/85	Dotter	3	1.4	
	4,592,754	06/03/86	Gupte et al.	623	1	
	4,617,932	10/21/86	Kornberg	128	334 R	
	4,665,906	05/19/87	Jervis	128	92 YN	
	4,787,899	11/29/88	Lazarus	623	1	
	5,104,399	04/14/92	Lazarus	623	1	
	5,122,156	06/16/92	Granger et al.	606	219	
	5,135,467	08/04/92	Citron	600	16	
	5,207,695	05/04/93	Trout, III	606	153	
	5,211,658	05/18/93	Clouse	623	1	
	5,211,683	05/18/93	Maginot	128	898	
	5,234,447	08/10/93	Kaster et al.	606	153	
	5,275,622	01/04/94	Lazarus et al.	623	1	
	5,304,220	04/19/94	Maginot	623	1	
	5,316,023	05/31/94	Palmaz et al.	128	898	
	5,334,217	08/02/94	Das	606	213	
	5,354,336	10/11/94	Kelman et al.	623	6	
	5,366,462	11/22/94	Kaster et al.	606	153	
	5,387,235	02/07/95	Chuter	623	1	
	5,391,156	02/21/95	Hildwein et al.	604	174	
	5,397,345	03/14/95	Lazarus	623	1	
	5,397,355	03/14/95	Marin et al.	623	12	
	5,433,727	07/18/95	Sideris	606	213	
	5,443,497	08/22/95	Venbrux	623	1	
	5,452,733	09/26/95	Sterman et al.	128	898	
	5,456,712	10/10/95	Maginot	623	1	
	5,478,354	12/26/95	Tovey et al.	606	219	
	5,489,295	02/06/96	Piplani et al.	623	1	
	5,507,769	04/16/96	Marin et al.	606	198	

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APR 23 2002
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
293/034 Cont. 2APPLICATION NO.
10/091,143INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTSAPPLICANTS
Todd A. Berg et al.CONFIRMATION NO.
7997FILING DATE
March 5, 2002GROUP ART UNIT
3738

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,522,880	06/04/96	Barone et al.	623	1	
	5,545,214	08/13/96	Stevens	623	2	
	5,562,728	10/08/96	Lazarus et al.	623	1	
	5,617,878	04/08/97	Taheri	128	898	
	5,618,311	04/08/97	Gryskiewicz	606	216	
	5,653,747	08/05/97	Dereume	623	1	
	5,676,670	10/14/97	Kim	606	108	
	5,695,504	12/09/97	Gifford, III et al.	606	153	
	5,843,164	12/01/98	Frantzen et al.	623	1	
	5,843,170	12/01/98	Ahn	623	1	
	5,843,175	12/01/98	Frantzen	623	1	
	5,921,995	07/13/99	Kleshinski	606	153	
	5,976,159	11/02/99	Bolduc et al.	606	142	
	5,976,178	11/02/99	Goldsteen et al.	623	1	
	6,013,190	01/11/00	Berg et al.	216	34	
	6,026,814	02/22/00	LaFontaine et al.	128	898	
	6,035,856	03/14/00	LaFontaine et al.	128	898	
	6,036,702	03/14/00	Bachinski et al.	606	153	
	6,074,416	06/13/00	Berg et al.	623	1	
	6,113,612	09/05/00	Swanson et al.	606	153	
	6,120,432	09/19/00	Sullivan et al.	600	36	
	6,193,734	02/27/01	Bolduc et al.	606	153	

RECEIVED
APR 23 2002
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	670,239	01/06/94	Australia	A61F	2/06		
	489,316	07/25/38	Great Britain				
	2,269,104 A	02/02/94	Great Britain	A61F	2/06		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance with MPEP 609 and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.

FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 293/034 Cont. 2		APPLICATION NO. 10/091,143	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS				APPLICANTS Todd A. Berg et al.		CONFIRMATION NO. 7997	
				FILING DATE March 5, 2002		GROUP ART UNIT 3738	

	0 539 237 A1	04/28/93	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 637 454 A1	02/08/95	EPO	A61M	25/10		
	0 680 734 A2	11/08/95	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 684 022 A2	11/29/95	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 701 800 A1	03/20/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 712 614 A1	05/22/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 732 088 A2	09/18/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	0 732 089 A2	09/18/96	EPO	A61F	2/06		
	DE 195 42 733	07/24/97	Germany	A61B	17/11		
	WO 89/08433	09/21/89	PCT	A61F	2/04		
	WO 93/00868	01/21/93	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 93/20757	10/28/93	PCT	A61B	17/11		
	WO 94/01056	01/20/94	PCT	A61F	2/04		
	WO 95/21592	08/17/95	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 95/32757	12/07/95	PCT	A61M	29/00		
	WO 96/01591	01/25/96	PCT	A61B	17/22		
	WO 96/01599	01/25/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 96/14808	05/23/96	PCT	A61F	2/02		
	WO 96/18361	06/20/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 96/22745	08/01/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 96/25897	08/29/96	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 97/13463	04/17/97	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 97/13471	04/17/97	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 97/27898	08/07/97	PCT	A61M	29/00		
	WO 98/02099	01/22/98	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 98/03118	01/29/98	PCT	A61B	17/11		
	WO 98/19629 A2	05/14/98	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 98/19629 A3	09/11/98	PCT	A61F	2/06		
	WO 98/38939	09/11/98	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 98/38941	09/11/98	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 98/38942	09/11/98	PCT	A61B	19/00		
	WO 98/55027	12/10/98	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 99/62408	12/09/99	PCT	A61B	17/08		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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